c.1
Dni. 4

R & A No. 1586.3

SECRET

097.3
Z1092
No. 1586.3

SPIES, AGENTS PROVOCATEURS, OR QUESTIONABLE CHARACTERS CONNECTED WITH ITALY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REFERENCE DIVISION
FILE COPY
PLEASE RETURN
REF

10 February 1945

Prepared for

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
Research and Analysis Branch

SECRET

COPY NO.___

N O T E

In reading the present report, the prefatory note on Page 1 of R & A No. 1318, entitled "Spies, Agents Provocateurs, Or Questionable Characters Connected with Italy" and dated October 22, 1943, should be kept in mind.

DE ROSA, MICHELE

He was apparently engaged in espionage activities on behalf of the Fascist government. In 1926, he denounced, to Fascist authorities in Milan, two comrades (probably anarchists), Garibaldi Petrocchi and his woman companion, Maria Caiazzi, as accomplices in the killing of royal carabineers in the commune of Mede, province of Pavia. De Rosa caused the arrest of Maria Caiazzi.

De Rosa had been known as an anarchist. He is of Sicilian origin. Before the First World War, he lived in the United States; after the War, he lived in Venice, and later in the commune of Rho, province of Milan.

GHILLANI, EDOARDO

In 1936-1937, anti-Fascists of Bordeaux were warned against a certain Edoardo Ghillani whose character appeared to be questionable. His alias was Occhioni.

MICCHI

It appears that, circa 1936, a certain Micchi, a former anarchist, was doing espionage

MICCHI (continued)

work and acting as an agent of the Ovra in the French town of Gardanne, near Marseilles. Such men as Micchi carried on their work especially among Italians in France.

NOBILE, FERDINANDO

In 1935, anti-Fascists in France were warned against a certain Ferdinando Nobile, of Sicilian origin, who had lived for many years in Genoa where he had been a "strong-arm" man in the Fascist Militia.

It is not improbable that, after leaving Italy, he lived for a time at Ajaccio in Corsica.

OCCHIONI

See above, under Edoardo Ghillani.

ZANATTA, GIUSEPPE

To the information about this individual in R & A No. 1318, the following may be added:

It appears that while he was in France, he tried to gain the confidence of Italian communists and of members of the GIUSTIZIA E LIBERTÀ movement, and that among the Italian

ZANATTA, GIUSEPPE (continued)

exiles whom he saw, was the communist Giuseppe Di Vittorio (alias Mario Nicoletti) who seemed to have played an important role in exposing him as an agent provocateur.

Di Vittorio is now a prominent communist leader in Allied-held Italy.